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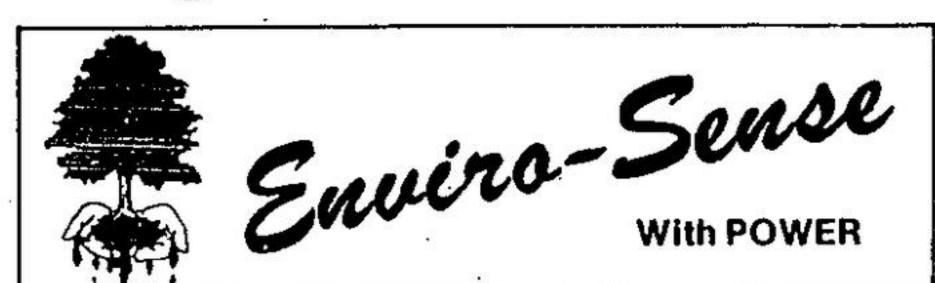
Making changes to save energy also makes sense

By BARBARA HALSALL Save Energy - Save Money

Canada uses more energy per capita than any other country in the world. The high energy consumption of the developed world is causing global warming and acid rain. I cringe when I think about how I am contributing to the problem.

When cold weather strikes and the furnace comes on we all are more conscious of energy consumption, but many are not sure what changes to make.

The Advance House in Brampton demonstrates new products and technologies that can dramatically reduce total home energy use without compromising comfort or safety. Someone building a new house would have the greatest opportunity to use the innovative technologies that



are demonstrated at the Advance House, but even if you are in an established home you can find some easy energy and water saving ideas.

The many agencies funding this project include, Energy, Mines and Resources, Canada, Ontario Ministry of Energy and Ontario Hydro. The technologies feature high performance. energy-efficient windows, in-

tegrated mechanical system, energy-efficient appliances and lighting, high levels of insulation, airtight construction, two-storey passive-solar sun space, energyefficient fireplace and energy monitoring system. Many energysaving products are used in this beautifully decorated house.

If you are travelling to Brampton the Advance House is well worth a visit. It is Jocated at 94

Laureicrest (Lot 255). Laurelcrest is one street west of Dixie Road on Highway 7. Go north on Laurelcrest to the corner of Vodden. It is open Wed. to Fri. 12-6 and Sat. and Sun. 10-4. Call 450-6713 for more information. There are many free booklets available explaining how to make improvements.

You may have heard or seen ads sponsored by Ontario Hydro to encourage conservation. During the first week of October a folder of coupons valid only until October 27th, arrived with the Toronto Star. These coupons, for everything from shower heads to pipe insulation, include savings on 30 items at Canadian Tire stores. Home Hardware on Guelph Street also has these items on sale with no coupon

needed. Loblaws has a promotion of energy saving light bulbs. These bulbs are also available at Georgetown's Living Lighting Store.

When you make changes to save on energy, not only will you feel good about doing your part to save the environment but you will also be rewarded with lower energy bills. We all win. If the crisis in the Persian Gulf forces oil prices higher, your savings may be even greater. You can make a difference.

Be sure to watch Race to Save the Planet" on Channel 17, Thursday at 8 p.m.

P.O.W.E.R. members wanting to sell tickets for the Halloween Dance on Friday, October 26th, call Ruth at 853-1328 or David at 877-1780.

Environment-conscious consumers can make a difference

OTTAWA - Ready for one more grim statistic about the environment? Here it is: The amount of motor oil Canadians drain from their cars and dump into the environment each year could fill the Exxon Valdez seven times over.

While it is certainly discouraging, this information won't shock many people. It seems that whenever consumer habits are studied, there is some sort of bad news for our planet.

October 14 is World Standards Day, and people around the world will be considering the role international standards can play in cleaning up the environment. According to John Woods. Executive Director of the Standards Council of Canada, there are several ways that Canadian consumers can pitch in.

"Thanks to the efforts of standards committees there are now tools in the Canadian marketplace that informed shoppers can use to help them select products that do as little harm as possible to the environment," said Mr. Woods.

"By following a few simple rules, consumers can use their buying power not only to reduce the growing burden on our environment, but also to send a message to the business community."

Here are three rules of thumb to follow next time you are considering a purchase:

RULE 1: ENERGUIDE

When buying a major appliance like a fridge, stove or freezer, look for the Energuide label. This big. black label, usually affixed to the inside of the appliance, was developed with the help of a Canadian standards committee to let consumers compare the energy efficiency of various models of major appliances. The higher the number the more energy the product will drain. Buy units with low numbers and make sure the dealer knows that you attach importance to the Energuide label.

RULE 2: ECOLOGO Keep a sharp eye for a new symbol that is making its way to store shelves across the country: the Ecologo. A product that displays the ecologo, three doves intertwined to form a maple leaf, is a good environmental choice. The ecologo has special credibility in the world of environmental claims because it is backed by a committee made up of representatives from a wide variety of concerned groups. While there are only a few products that now carry this symbol, it will

become increasingly common in the years to come. For now, it can be found on such items as recycled motor oil, products made from recycled plastic, water-based paints, recycled paper, reusable diapers and batteries.

RULE 3: KNOWLEDGE

Don't be lulled into a false sense of security by following rules one and two. Become informed about what constitutes an environmental hazard and leave it on the store shelf. You'll find there are often alternatives.

Increasingly, Canadians are demanding that industries demonstrate greater commitment to environmentally friendly practices. However, we sometimes forget that the strongest message we can send to the business community comes not from our mouths but from our pocketbooks.

Make a resolution for World Standards Day, and put standards to work for you by looking for the Ecologo and the Energuide label. You'll be sending a clear message to the manufacturers, and you can bet they'll be listening.

If you would like to learn more about standards, write away for the Standards Council's free brochure, Standards and Certification, What's In It For Me. The address is 350 Sparks Street, Suite 1200, Ottawa, Ontario, K1P 6N7.

Divergent views aired at pesticide meeting

TORONTO - Divergent views were expressed at the public meetings conducted by the Pesticides Registration Review Team in Mississauga's Day's Inn. Farmers, horticulturalists. and other industry members facenvironmentalists and representatives from labour over the need to enact stricter controls on pesticides.

Emphasising that their products had to be of high quality to be competitive with imported items, food producers indicated that they wanted to see a more rapid registration process and easier access to new pesticides and related research findings. Farmers also said that they had a long-term stake in the environment and looked upon pesticides as a way of safeguarding food supplies.

Representatives from labour stated they favoured stricter pesticide controls both in regard to registration and use. They also expressed concern over the impact of the Free Trade Agreement on the importation of pesticides. A number of organic food producers advised the Review Team that they could grow products of high quality with little or no reliance on chemicals.

Environmentalists and some medical practitioners stressed the need to have easier access to product information and related research findings on toxicity and other human health effects. Urban use of pesticides to improve the appearance of lawns was raised as a special issue. Some intervenors claimed that this practice should be curtailed as some children and adults were already suffering health effects.

In total, some one hundred intervenors addressed the twelve member Review Team which has been given the mandate to review the federal pesticide registration program.

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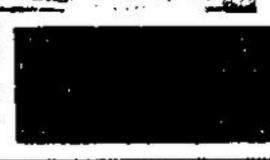


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